

granules is about 1,400 μm or less and wherein said granulated sweetener exhibits a rate of dissolution in water which is greater than that exhibited by granules of Aspartame alone.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of canceled Claim 4. Accordingly, support for amended Claim 1 can be found in Claims 1 and 4 as previously filed. As noted in the previously filed Amendment, Support for Claim 4 can be found on page 4, lines 5-11, of the specification and in Experiments 1 and 2, given on pages 10-12, of the specification.

No new matter has been added. Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 9-19 are active in this application.

REMARKS

Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiner Wong for the helpful and courteous discussion held with her on December 6, 2001, during which the prosecution of the above-identified application was materially advanced. The following remarks will expand and summarize the issues discussed.

The present claims relate to granulated sweeteners which comprise Aspartame and Acesulfame-K as active ingredients, in which the amount of Acesulfame-K is 5 to 90 % by weight based on the total amount of Aspartame and Acesulfame-K and wherein the maximum particle size of the granules is about 1,400 μm or less and in which the granulated sweetener exhibits a rate of dissolution in water which is greater than that exhibited by granules of Aspartame alone.